







Friday 23rd January 2026

This week we explored how to keep ourselves safe when crossing the road. The children practised using our own road-safety equipment in the outdoor area, learning how to follow important steps and make sensible choices.

✨ **Key Road Safety Skills We Practised**

Stop, Look, and Listen: The children learned to stop at the kerb, look both ways, and listen carefully before crossing.

Wait for a Safe Moment: We talked about waiting until it is completely safe before stepping onto the road.

Using a Crossing: We practised pressing the button at a pedestrian crossing and waiting for the green man or the beeping sound.

Staying Safe in the Dark: The children learned that bright or reflective clothing helps drivers see them more easily when it's dark.

How Reflectors Work: We explored how reflectors help keep us visible in low light conditions.

💬 **How You Can Help at Home**

Practise crossing the road together, talking through each step: "Let's stop… now we look both ways… now we listen…"

Encourage your child to identify safe places to cross.

Help them choose bright or reflective clothing on gloomy or darker days.

Learning about road safety helps children become confident and responsible when out and about—thank you for supporting these vital life skills!

🔦 **Exploring Light and Reflection**

Through our independent learning, we enjoyed experimenting with torches and discovered that some materials reflect light while others do not. The children used words such as **shiny** and **dull** to describe the objects they tested.

😁 **Keeping Our Teeth Healthy**

We also learned about looking after our teeth. The children explored:

Why we have teeth

How many teeth we should have

How to brush properly twice a day to prevent decay

What happens when visiting the dentist

Which foods and drinks are not good for our teeth

We have sent home a leaflet, toothpaste, and a new toothbrush so your child can enjoy keeping their teeth clean and healthy.

🔤 **Phonics Focus**

This week in phonics we introduced the following sounds:

oa (b-oa-t, s-oa-p)

long oo (m-oo-n, z-oo-m)
short oo (l-oo-k, g-oo-d)
ar (f-ar-m, h-ar-d)

We found out that oo is a digraph that makes two different sounds—a long oo as in zoom and a short oo as in wool. We also introduced joining these letters, which helps children remember them and prepares them for joined handwriting in Key Stage 1. We practised reading the tricky words: **my, they, said, have, you** and introduced a new tricky word **are**.

📏 **Maths in the Classroom**
In maths, we explored:
⚖️ **Mass**
The children compared objects to see which were heavier or lighter.
🫙 **Capacity**
Using various containers, we compared full, empty, nearly full, nearly empty, and half full.
We have been working hard to develop mathematical vocabulary, including:
heavy, light, heavier than, lighter than, balance, same, equal, full, empty, nearly full, nearly empty, half full, smaller, smallest, larger, largest, most, least.

<u>Home Learning challenge</u>
To trace over then copy the letters **oa oo ar**. Please continue to encourage your child to hold their pencil correctly as they do so.

Encourage your child to explore capacity whilst having a bath or playing in the kitchen sink – fill and empty containers and describe how much water is in there, is it **full, empty, half full, nearly full** or **nearly empty**? Compare two containers – which holds the **most/least** and how do you know?

Find objects and materials around your home that are **shiny** or **dull**.

Most importantly, clean your clean twice a day!





Have a wonderful weekend.

Team Puffins